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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/688,803	10/17/2000	Yoshiyuki Nakamura	088941/0173	2065

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EXAMINER

CHAUDRY, MUJTABA M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2133

12

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/688,803

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA, YOSHIYUKI

Examiner

Mujtaba K Chaudry

Art Unit

2133

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1, 2, 3 and 9, drawn to a circuit comprising a test circuit for testing target circuits comprising three selection means, classified in class 714, subclass 734.
- II. Claims 4-8 and 10-15, drawn to a system for forming test circuits comprising parallel calculation of scan chains, detecting section and serial length calculation, classified in class 714, subclass 729.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions Group I, a test circuit for testing two target circuits comprising three selection means and Group II, a system for forming test circuits comprising parallel calculation of scan, detecting section and serial length calculation are related as apparatus and product made. The inventions in this relationship are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: **(1) that the apparatus as claimed is not an obvious apparatus for making the product and the apparatus can be used for making a different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different apparatus (MPEP § 806.05(g)).** In this case the claims of Group I is the product used and the claims of Group II is the apparatus for making the product. The claims of Group I, which comprise a circuit comprising a test circuit comprising three selection means wherein the test circuit is between two target circuits. The claims of Group II, comprise of a system for forming a test circuit which involve the process of parallel calculation of the scan chains, a detecting section for comparing the number of inputs

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and outputs, a serial length calculating section. To satisfy either of the two conditions noted above and in the MPEP 806.05(g), the Examiner would like to point out that the apparatus as claimed in Group II is not obvious for making the test circuit (or product) as claimed in Group II because it is possible for the apparatus (Group II claims) to make different products.

Furthermore, the product—claims of Group I as claimed—can readily be made by a different apparatus and not necessarily by that of Group II as claimed. Therefore, it is the Examiner's conclusion that apparatus and product are distinct.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group II is not required for Group I, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

A telephone call was made to Applicants Attorney, David A. Blumenthal (202-672-5407) on Wednesday, April 07, 2004 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. Applicants instead preferred a written restriction requirement.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR


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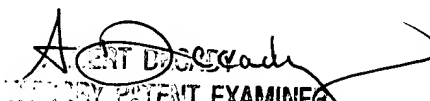
1.143). Applicants should indicate, if election is made, whether it is "with traverse" or "without traverse."

Any inquiries concerning this communication should be directed to the examiner, Mujtaba Chaudry who may be reached at 703-305-7755. The examiner may normally be reached Mon – Thur 7:30 am to 4:30 pm and every other Fri 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady at 703-305-9595. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is 703-746-7239.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist at 703-305-3900.


Mujtaba Chaudry
Art Unit 2133
April 7, 2004


ALBERT DECADY
SUTHERLAND PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100